

February 16, 2000

## EXCEPTION REPORT #5

**The quality of the results and frequent changes to the Bell Atlantic–Massachusetts standard Quality Baseline Validation Test Deck indicates that it has not undergone proper Bell Atlantic internal quality assurance testing and standards.**

### Issue

During the Bell Atlantic–Massachusetts (BA-MA) LSOG 4 release testing, KPMG has noted the results produced by BA-MA for its standard Quality Baseline Validation Test Deck and the recurring changes to the Quality Baseline Validation Test Deck.

According to the process and procedures described in Section 4.5 of the CLEC Handbook (Volume II, September 1999), the code present in the CTE during the CLEC testing period (four weeks prior production release) is supposed to have already undergone quality assurance testing and be ready for a production environment.

The table below summarizes the history and publicly published results of the LSOG 4 Quality Baseline Validation Test Deck for BA-MA.

Date	Comment	Pre-order			Order		
		Success. validated	Total cases	% success validation	Success. validated	Total cases	% success validation
January 10	BA-MA test deck released	-	-	-	-	-	-
January 20	BA-MA test deck released redistributed with expected results	-	-	-	-	-	-
January 23	BA-MA test deck results published	8	19	42	0	38	0
January 27	BA-MA test deck results published	8	19	42	0	38	0
January 30	BA-MA test deck results published	11	19	58	0	38	0
February 3	BA-MA test deck results published	8	19	42	10	38	26
February 5	Revised test deck released (Changes made to the test deck released on January 10)	-	-	-	-	-	-
February 13	BA-MA test deck results published	10	19	53	38	38	100
February 14	Revised test deck released (Changes made to the test deck released on February 5)	-	-	-	-	-	-

In addition, the Quality Baseline Validation Test Deck has undergone two revisions since its initial release on January 10. These revisions in such a short period of time may not

provide adequate time for CLECs to adjust and prepare for the scheduled release of new LSOG code.

### **Assessment**

The Quality Baseline Validation Test Deck results indicate that Bell Atlantic did not strictly adhere to its documented internal quality assurance procedures and testing. Given the success rate of test deck cases being validated, carriers do not have a large set of valid and functioning transactions to test their own systems with.

Revisions made to the Quality Baseline Validation Test Deck while the new release testing is in progress have not provided the CLECs with a stable environment.

The above mentioned points prevent the CLECs from carrying out full scale testing and has drastically reduced the window of time available for complete testing prior to the deployment of LSOG 4 in a production environment.

All of these factors may significantly affect a CLEC's ability to test EDI interface software effectively, consume CLEC resources unnecessarily, and ultimately prevent, hinder, and/or delay a CLEC's ability to conduct business with Bell Atlantic-Massachusetts over an EDI medium.